

**AGENDA ITEM #7**

March 15, 2002

To: Delta Protection Commission

From: Karen Morais, Delta Protection Commission Staff

Subject: Legislation Update  
(For Commission Information)

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The Legislative session is now in full swing - 2,095 introduced bills since the second year of the 2001/2002 Session began January 7<sup>th</sup> – 1,283 Assembly bills and 812 Senate bills. The Commission actively tracked 24 bills last year. The California Constitution, Article IV, requires that all bills pass out of their house of origin by the 31<sup>st</sup> of January to remain active; 15 of those bills were not approved by their respective house (list attached) and have been removed from the tracking list.

The Commission voted at the July 2001 meeting to support Assemblyman Dickerson's AB 1414, which requires the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) to prepare land management plans for DFG owned property. It also requires the Resources Agency to develop and maintain a database of lands and easements that have been acquired by Resources Agency departments and boards. These tasks are subject to appropriation of funds. The Governor approved AB 1414 last month (Chapter 8, Statutes of 2002).

After review of the bills introduced this year, we have added 25 new bills to the tracking list for a total of 33 bills of interest to the Delta Protection Commission. Attached is a list and brief description of each bill.

As a follow up to the January 11, 2002, Legislative Update Memo:

- On the Primary Ballot, Proposition 40, *The California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002*, was approved (see attached).
- One initiative in the process of qualification: *Water Quality, Supply and Safe Drinking Water Projects. Coastal Wetlands Purchase and Protection. Bonds. Initiative Statute*. Circulation Deadline: 05/28/02. Signatures Required: 419,260.
- Three similar bond measures pending before the Legislature could also qualify for the November ballot: ACA 8, AB 52, and SB 196. These measures are included on DPC's bill watch list (attached).

Three measures (copies enclosed) will be discussed at the Commission's March meeting:

- SB 1653 (Costa) would enact the California Bay-Delta Act.
- SB 1854 (Machado) would establish the Delta Conservancy to acquire and direct the management of public lands in the primary and secondary zones of the Delta.
- H.R. 3554 (Ose) would transfer Little Holland and Prospect Islands to the State of California.

*Note: Full text of the DPC Bill Watch List and committee analyses may be viewed at [www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov).*